WO 2005/095346 PCT/GB2005/001106

Claims

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

$$(R^{2})_{n} \xrightarrow{R^{3}} (I)$$

wherein:

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R¹ represents a group of formula –NR^aR^b or a nitrogen containing heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1 to 4) C₁₋₆ alkyl groups;

X represents a bond, –(CR^cR^d)-, –(CR^cR^d)-(CR^eR^f)-, –(CR^cR^d)-(CR^eR^f)-(CR^eR^f)-, or – heterocyclyl-, wherein said heterocyclyl group may be optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1 to 4) C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; such that when R¹ represents –NR^aR^b, X does not represent a bond nor –(CR^cR^d)-;

 R^a , R^b , R^c , R^d , R^e , R^f , R^g and R^h independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R² represents halogen, cyano, -CF₃, -CF₃O, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₁₋₈ alkoxy, C₁₋₈ alkanoyl or a group -CONR⁵R⁶;

n represents 0 to 3;

 R^3 and R^4 independently represent hydrogen, halogen, cyano, -CF₃, -CF₃O, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkanoyl or a group -CONR⁵R⁶;

20 R⁵ and R⁶ independently represent hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl or together with the N atom to which they are attached may be fused to form a 5- to 7- membered N-containing aromatic or non-aromatic heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by an O or S atom; A represents an –aryl, -heteroaryl, -aryl-aryl, -aryl-heteroaryl, -heteroaryl-aryl or – heteroaryl-heteroaryl group;

wherein said aryl and heteroaryl groups of A may be optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1, 2 or 3) substituents which may be the same or different, and which are selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy, pentafluoroethyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, arylC₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ alkoxyC₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkylC₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyloxy,

alkanoyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfinyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyloxy, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonylC₁₋₆ alkyl, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonylC₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonamido, C₁₋₆ alkylamido, C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonamidoC₁₋₆ alkyl, arylsulfonamido, arylsulfonamidoC₁₋₆ alkyl, arylcarboxamidoC₁₋₆ alkyl, aroyl, aroylC₁₋₆ alkyl, arylC₁₋₆ alkanoyl, or a group CONR⁷R⁸ or SO₂NR⁷R⁸, wherein R⁷ and R⁸ independently represent hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl or R⁷ and R⁸ together with the

WO 2005/095346 PCT/GB2005/001106

nitrogen atom to which they are attached may form a nitrogen containing heterocyclyl or heteroaryl group; or solvates thereof.

- 5 2. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, wherein A represents aryl optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or heteroaryl.
- 3. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein R¹ represents NR^aR^b, wherein R^a and R^b are independently hydrogen or methyl; or a nitrogen containing heterocyclyl group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yl or azepinyl optionally substituted by methyl or isopropyl.
 - 4. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 selected from: [2-(3-Phenylsulfonylquinoline-8-yloxy)ethyl]dimethylamine;
- 8-({[(2S)-1-Methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl]methyl}oxy)-3-(phenylsulfonyl) quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[(2S)-2-pyrrolidinylmethyl]oxy}quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]oxy}quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-[(3R)-3-pyrrolidinyloxy]quinoline;
 - Dimethyl(1-methyl-2-{[3-(phenylsulfonyl)-8-quinolinyl]oxy} propyl)amine;
- 20 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[(2R)-2-pyrrolidinylmethyl]oxy}quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[2-(1-piperidinyl)ethyl]oxy}quinoline;
 - 8-{[2-(4-Morpholinyl)ethyl]oxy}-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-(1-Azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yloxy)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[3-(1-piperidinyl)propyl]oxy}quinoline;
- 25 8-{[2-(Hexahydro-1H-azepin-1-yl)ethyl]oxy}-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - ((3S,4R)-4-{[3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-quinolinyl]oxy}tetrahydro-3-furanyl)amine;
 - (3S,4R)-N,N-Dimethyl-4-{[3-(phenylsulfonyl)-8-quinolinyl]oxy}tetrahydro-3-furanamine;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-(3-piperidinyloxy)quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-(4-piperidinyloxy)quinoline;
- 30 8-{[(3R)-1-Methyl-3-pyrrolidinyl]oxy}-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-{[(3S)-1-Methyl-3-pyrrolidinyl]oxy}-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-[(3R)-1-Azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3-yloxy]-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-8-[(3S)-3-pyrrolidinyloxy]quinoline;
 - 8-[(1-Methyl-4-piperidinyl)oxy]-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
- 35 8-[(1-Azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-2-ylmethyl)oxy]-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-[(1-Methyl-3-piperidinyl)oxy]-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-[(3-Morpholinylmethyl)oxy]-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - 8-({[(2S)-1-(1-Methylethyl)-2-pyrrolidinyl]methyl}oxy)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)quinoline;
 - N,N-Dimethyl-2-{[3-(phenylsulfonyl)-8-quinolinyl]oxy}-1-propanamine; or
- 40 5-Chloro-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-8-{[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]oxy}quinoline; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

WO 2005/095346 PCT/GB2005/001106

5. A compound of claim 4 wherein the salt is the hydrochloride salt.

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- 6. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
- 7. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 for use in the treatment of depression, anxiety, Alzheimers disease, age related cognitive decline, ADHD, obesity, mild cognitive impairment, schizophrenia, cognitive deficits in schizophrenia and stroke.
- 8. The use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of depression, anxiety, Alzheimers disease, age related cognitive decline, ADHD, obesity, mild cognitive impairment, schizophrenia, cognitive deficits in schizophrenia and stroke.
- 9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5 for use in the treatment of depression, anxiety, Alzheimers disease, age related cognitive decline, ADHD, obesity, mild cognitive impairment, schizophrenia, cognitive deficits in schizophrenia and stroke.
- 10. A method of treating depression, anxiety, Alzheimers disease, age related cognitive decline, ADHD, obesity, mild cognitive impairment, schizophrenia, cognitive deficits in schizophrenia and stroke which comprises administering a safe and therapeutically effective amount to a patient in need thereof of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5.